

of Pearee. The grinding call was strongly given throughout the time the bird was watched.

August 28. Three White-naped Honeyeaters (*Melithreptus lunatus*) were seen in the University grounds, Nedlands, where the species was previously recorded in 1953 (*W.A. Nat.*, vol. 4, p. 93).

October 11. A Hooded Dotterel (*Charadrius cucullatus*), in adult plumage, was seen at Pelican Point, on the Swan River estuary.

October 16. An Owlet Nightjar (*Aegotheles cristatus*) was flushed from a paperbark tree at Lake Bambun. The time was 1530 hours. The bird sat tightly and did not fly until approached closely.

November 4. A pure white Curlew Sandpiper (*Erolia testacea*) were seen at Pelican Point in a mixed flock of Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints. There was no trace of colouring in the bird's plumage. It had red legs and a reddish-brown beak. The eye colour was not observed.

November 26. Six Gull-billed Terns (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) were seen feeding over a shallow salt lake 2½ miles west of Moora. A peculiar diving action characterised them. The birds flew at 20-30 feet, and, on sighting food would dive head first, as most terns do. However, at about 3 feet above the water the birds drew out of the dive and settled on the water tail first, picking up the food with the bill. They were watched with a pair of 10 x 40 binoculars from a distance of 80-100 feet. The short black bill was clearly noted.

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The Jewel Beetle, *Stigmodera (Castiarina) magnetica* Cart.—Glauert (*W.A. Nat.*, 1948, vol. I, pp. 129-130) discusses the status of the jewel beetle *Stigmodera (Castiarina) magnetica* Cart., which is stated to be rare and apparently restricted to a very limited area. The beetle is only known to occur on the coastal shrub *Myoporum insulare* R.Br., and had, at the time of Mr. Glauert's article, been collected only at Mudurup Rocks (the type locality) and at Swanbourne.

The note stimulated us to search for the insect and considerable numbers have been collected from seven localities during the past five years. The localities, collectors and numbers were as follows:

Quinn's Rocks	S.B.,	1955,	27
Wanneru	R.P.M.,	1952,	2
North Beach	R.P.M.,	1955,	2
Wembley Beach	R.P.M.,	1955,	4
Swanbourne	J.A.L.W.,	1955,	22
Leighton	S.B.,	1955,	23
Safety Bay	R.P.M.,	1950,	2

The beetles may be present for a considerable period, the earliest record being from Quinn's Rocks on September 24, and the latest on December 14 from Safety Bay. During continual observation at Swanbourne, the beetles were present for at least

a month from October 20; unfortunately in November this series of observations was broken. Possibly the insects are limited in time only by the flowering season of the *Myoporum*.

It is interesting to note that on two occasions (Quinn's Rocks, 24/9/55, and Swanbourne, 27/10/55) the beetles were feeding actively on the flowers during cold, wet weather and, at Quinn's Rocks, two pairs were found in copula under these conditions. In hot weather the insects flew very readily, but seemed to become inactive by about 4 p.m., although the temperature was still quite high.

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Stigmodera magnetica on its food plant, *Myoporum insulare*. x 4.
—J. A. L. Watson, del.